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by her son in an appeal to a Santiago court for a writ of habeas corpus. He complained that despite his efforts to locate his mother through Government and military channels, he had been unable to obtain any information.

### Broad Mandate Given

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tion with the purpose of producing the intelligence necessary to formulate policies, planning and the adoption of measures to assure national security and the development of the country."

The same decree gives the agency unlimited access to "the resources that are necessary for its financing" and allows it duty-free imports of equipment and accessories, presumably for interrogation and investigation.

Its agents almost always wear civilian clothes, rarely display identification documents and drive in unmarked cars or refrigerated meat trucks imported by the Allende Government's Public Development Corporation. Its interrogation centers include army garrisons as well as former private properties, the best known of which is Villa Grimaldi, a one-time discotheque on the outskirts of Santiago.

# Chile Gives Free Rein to Secret Police

By JONATHAN KANDELL  
Special to The New York Times

**SANTIAGO, Chile, May 5—**After 20 months in power Chile's military junta shows few signs of dismantling the vast apparatus of political repression created to "extirpate the Marxist cancer."

The military took over when the country was bitterly polarized between an anti-Marxist majority and a leftist minority, and rapidly drifting toward economic chaos and a possible civil war. But from its beginning the junta has chosen to treat the followers of the late President Salvador Allende Gossens as a vanquished enemy capable at any time of posing a strong terrorist threat.

According to Government estimates more than 41,000 people — one of every 250 Chileans — have been detained at least temporarily for political reasons.

Church sources who have concerned themselves with political prisoners believe that the figure is closer to 95,000, one of every 100. Both the Government and its domestic critics appear agreed that there are still 5,000 people in prison camps for political reasons.

While vast numbers of people passed through detention in the aftermath of the coup that toppled President Allende in 1973, the arrests and charges of torture have declined to recent months.

domestic, especially all international human-rights organizations, have reported a rise in the number of political prisoners in Chile. In 1974, for example, the Western European nations that are part of Chile's largest creditors refused to consider the country's request for a loan to help pay for the cost of the military's operations.

media, universities and governmental circles in Western countries.

Last week President Augusto Pinochet Ugarte unveiled a new series of rules to prevent "abuses of power that the Government has never approved." They call for the punishment of torturers and require that new detainees be released within five days or turned over to the courts. Intelligence services must inform a detainee's nearest relatives within 48 hours of his arrest.

The junta's domestic critics remain skeptical because scores are still arrested every week and allegations of torture continue to make their way into public records.

On March 19 Luis Guillermo Núñez, one of Chile's best-known painters, was invited to exhibit a series of his works at the French-Chilean Institute of Culture. About 500 people turned up at the opening exhibit of his abstracts, on such themes as social conventions, alienation and loss of freedom.

Despite the fact that the show was partly sponsored by the French Embassy, it was quickly closed by the secret police. The next day Mr. Núñez was arrested at home by secret policemen who, according to the neighbors, arrived in a small pickup truck. His relatives lodged an appeal for a writ of habeas corpus. But he has not been heard from.

Last month Juan Sepúlveda Arancibia, 47-year-old owner of an auto repair shop, was arrested with two of his sons by police detectives who were looking for a third son, Alejandro, allegedly a member of an extreme left-wing organization.

"A detective named Igor A. comes every day to my home," said Mr. Sepúlveda. "He is in a sworn statement to the Santiago Court of Appeals. On Sunday he told me they were looking for my son Alejandro, who we have not heard from, and he warned us that he better turn him in because he better to have him in prison than instead of that."

The court later as Mr. Sepúlveda was arrested and taken to the court.

The secret police apparatus has grown to such a degree that it has become a parallel government, in the view of human-rights lawyers and concerned clergymen. There are five intelligence services, with one or two of them rapidly gaining more power than the rest. A network of informers has expanded throughout the shantytowns, factories, schools

and universities. Applicants to public agencies are often screened by the intelligence services.

The agents are able to ignore standards of conduct set by the Government for other officials and ordinary citizens. Occasionally, an intelligence official's eccentric reputation spreads beyond the confines of clandestine interrogation centers.

This is true of Comdr. Edgar Ceballos, a leader of air force intelligence, a burly man in his early forties who has reportedly often taken a personal hand in torture.

"With leftist military officers who were detained he was a beast and worked them over with an uncontrolled animal fury," said a man well-acquainted with several of the victims.

With civilian suspects, some of them left-wing extremists, he has mixed severe torture with personal courtesies, it is

said. He has invited some to snacks at Nico's, a well-known pizzeria in an upper-class neighborhood. Sometimes he arranges rendezvous for prisoners with their woman friends in apartments rented by air force intelligence. After a vacation on Easter Island he brought back key chains as gifts for favorite prisoners.

Recently he has had a running battle with a lawyer, called "the intellectual head" of the secret police, who emerged as a powerful figure of the secret police. Comdr. Ceballos, however, is not a member of the secret police.

After they had been arrested, they were taken to the court.

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While vast numbers of people passed through detention in the aftermath of the coup that toppled President Allende in 1973, the arrests and charges of torture have declined in recent months. None-

theless, virtually all international human-rights organizations, including the United Nations and the Organization of American States, have reported systematic and gross violations after repeated visits to Chile.

Earlier this year, in an unprecedented move, the Western European nations that are among Chile's largest creditors refused to consider renegotiating payments on her foreign debt until progress had been made on human rights.

Mr. Allende and his supporters have distributed their self-defending image as victims of a military campaign that has inflicted the heaviest international economic blockade on the country.

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Last month Juan Segóveda Arancibia, 47-year-old owner of an auto repair shop, was arrested with two of his sons by police detectives who were looking for a third son, Alejandro, allegedly a member of an extreme left-wing organization.

"A detective named Igo Allende came every day to my home," said Mr. Segóveda. "He was a very nice man, but he was a spy." The Santiago Court of Appeals on Sunday he told me they were looking for my son Alejandro, who we have not heard from. And he wanted us to be better than him in because it is better to have one dead son instead of three."

The court records show that Mr. Segóveda was beaten and held by his sons and then taken to a police station where he was held for 48 hours.

The police records were not made public until they had been reviewed by the military.

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Recently he has had a running battle with another agency, called National Intelligence Headquarters, which has emerged as the most powerful of the intelligence services. Commander Ceballos has refused to govern military prisoners and has insisted on his personal outrage in an effort to keep them from the organization.

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